



## CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

### 24-HOUR REPORT

7 SEPTEMBER 2017

#### (U) CALIFORNIA

##### **(U) San Diego – Nationwide Mall Theft Ring Accused of Shoplifting \$20 Million of Merchandise**

(U) For at least the past decade, Tijuana vendors put in special orders for designer merchandise, dispatching teams of shoplifters to malls around the country to steal more than \$20 million in merchandise that could be resold in Mexico. Yesterday, more than 250 law enforcement officers spread throughout San Diego County with warrants, arresting at least 14 people in Lemon Grove, Chula Vista, and San Diego. A San Diego federal grand jury indicted 22 people in the scheme.

SOURCE: 6 September 2017, [San Diego Union-Tribune](#)

##### **(U) San Francisco – Facebook Says Likely Russian-Based Operation Funded Ads with Political Messages**

(U) Facebook announced yesterday it found that an operation likely based in Russia spent \$100,000 on thousands of US ads promoting divisive social and political messages in a two-year-period through May. Facebook said 3,000 ads and 470 “inauthentic” accounts and pages spread polarizing views on topics including immigration, race, and gay rights. Another \$50,000 was spent on 2,200 “potentially politically-related” ads, likely by Russians, according to Facebook.

SOURCE: 6 September 2017, [Reuters](#)

##### **(U) San Francisco – Intrusion on US Energy Grid is a Warning, Says Former NSA Official**

(U) Over the past nine months, dozens of US power companies were compromised by an organized hacking group to the extent that some of them could have sabotaged and shut down production and distribution, according to Symantec, a cyber security company that discovered the intrusion. The level of access could have led to hackers taking out power operations for a period of a day or two or potentially up to a month, according to Symantec.

SOURCE: 7 September 2017, [USA Today](#)

#### (U) NATIONAL

##### **(U) Indiana – At Least One Injured in East Chicago Post Office Blast**

(U) East Chicago – At least one US Post Office employee was injured when one, possibly two, explosive devices detonated in a post office, according to an ATF spokesperson. The FBI, ATF, and other local agencies are investigating the incident. Bomb technicians were prepared to begin sweeping the post office for more explosive devices as of last night. The local fire department could not confirm what kind of device or devices were found, but they believe it was inside a package.

SOURCE: 6 September 2017, [NBC Chicago](#)

##### **(U) Pennsylvania –Philadelphia Woman Gets 8-Year Sentence for Plan to Join ISIS Fighter Overseas**

(U) Philadelphia – A Philadelphia woman was sentenced to eight years in federal prison yesterday after planning to abandon her children to join an ISIS fighter she married over Skype. Federal authorities noted that the case is an example of the more decentralized, diffused, and complicated threat they face from US citizens self-radicalized over the internet. More than 17 Americans have gone to prison over the last three years for traveling to Syria and Iraq to support ISIS or attempting to do so.

SOURCE: 6 September 2017, [Inquirer](#)

**(U) INTERNATIONAL**

**(U) Brussels – EU Looks to Extra Spending, Diplomacy to Bolster Cyber Security**

(U) Belgium – The European Commission wants to bolster cyber security in the EU by increasing investment in technology, setting stricter consumer safeguards, and stepping up diplomacy to deter attacks by other nations, among other measures. The Commission is due to announce its proposals in a report later this month. The report estimates that the impact of cybercrime on the EU rose fivefold between 2013 and 2017 and could rise another four times by 2019. Europol puts these losses at \$316 billion per year.

SOURCE: 6 September 2017, [Reuters](#)

**(U) Indonesia – Indonesian School a Launchpad for ISIS Child Fighters**

(U) Sukajaya – Drawing on court documents, registration filings, and interviews with counter-terrorism police and former militants, a news media investigation has found at least 12 people from Ibnu Mas'ud, an Islamic boarding school, who went to the Middle East to fight for ISIS. At least another 18 people linked to the school have been convicted, or are now under arrest, for militant plots and attacks in Indonesia, including the three deadliest attacks in the country in the past 20 months.

SOURCE: 6 September 2017, [Reuters](#)

**(U) Iraq – ISIS 'Planning Fresh Wave of Attacks' in Revenge for Loses, Says Leading Iraqi Official**

(U) Mosul – A leading Iraqi intelligence official is warning that ISIS is planning a fresh wave of terrorist attacks against Britain and other European countries in revenge for the defeats they have suffered in Iraq and Syria. The same official warned that ISIS is keen to launch additional attacks on the West to boost morale of the fighters who have suffered heavy losses. It is estimated that 500 British jihadists travelled to join ISIS at the height of the conflict, but the majority of those fighters have been killed during the US-led coalition's military campaign against ISIS.

SOURCE: 7 September 2017, [Telegraph](#)

**(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.**

**(U) FOR QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE EMAIL [STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV](mailto:STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV), OR CALL 916-874-1100.**

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